

Sinclair Broadcast Group is now instructing their 62 local stations to pre-empt regular programming to air a Kerry smear piece two weeks before the election. This unprecedented move is direct electioneering by a corporate media giant -- and against federal election law.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

Any retribution Sinclair receives for violating election laws or FCC rules will come too late to rectify the damage Sinclair will do to the democratic process. Stop this from happening in the future by preventing media consolidation. Thank you.